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ABSTRACT

In the past decade, the amount and variety of information on developing and managing comprehensive preservation programs has grown tremendously. This highly selective list of books, reports, journal and newsletter articles, and other sources is intended primarily as an introduction to the increasingly rich literature for archivists, special collections librarians, curators, and history professionals. Most of the items have been published since 1985, although a number of "classic" sources are included to illustrate how thinking on appropriate preservation action has evolved over the past 50 years. The list was compiled as part of the Society of American Archivists' 2-year long evaluation of its Basic Archival Conservation Program and should not be considered comprehensive. Each document is listed alphabetically by author and provides the title, publication and archival source, date, and number of pages. A total of 148 items are listed. (MAB)

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ADMINISTRATION OF PRESERVATION PROGRAMS IN ARCHIVES

A selective bibliography

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ADMINISTRATION OF PRESERVATION PROGRAMS IN ARCHIVES
A Selective Bibliography

Compiled by Paul Conway
National Archives and Records Administration

In the past decade, the amount and variety of information on developing and managing comprehensive preservation programs has grown tremendously. This highly selective list of books, reports, journal and newsletter articles, and other sources is intended primarily as an introduction to the increasingly rich literature for archivists, special collections librarians, curators, and history professionals. Most of the items have been published since 1985, although a number of "classic" sources are included to illustrate how thinking on appropriate preservation action has evolved over the past fifty years. The list was compiled as part of the Society of American Archivists' two-year long evaluation of its Basic Archival Conservation Program and should not be considered comprehensive.

Stimulating insights will be found in all of the items. Readers looking for a place to begin, however, might choose to consider the selections written by Pamela Darling (#53 - #56) Jan Merrill-Oldham (#90 - #91) and Robert H. Patterson (#108 - #109). Mary Lynn Ritzenthaler's manual on archival conservation (#119) and her recently completed guide to holdings maintenance (#120) are also essential reading.

Keeping up with major developments in the preservation field is not so difficult now that annotated bibliographies appear annually in **Library Resources and Technical Services**. Listings for the years 1984-88 are included in the bibliography (#64, #93, #94, #79), as is Lisa Fox's list of core preservation sources (#62), published recently by the American Library Association. Two additional sources to improve the "current awareness" of practicing professionals are the **Abbey Newsletter**, published eight times each year, and **Conservation Administration News**, published six times each year.

It is often useful, indeed necessary, to go beyond published sources in search of advice and assistance. Fortunately, several organizations are active in supporting archivists and other professionals who want to take constructive preservation action. The Society of American Archivists' Preservation Section, the American Library Association's Preservation of Library Materials (PLMS) Section, and the American Institute for Conservation each provide vital people-to-people contacts, monitor emerging trends and issues, and offer continuing education programs.

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